

Appl. No. : 10/615,325
Filed : July 7, 2003

REMARKS

In response to the Office Action, Applicant respectfully requests the Examiner to reconsider the above-captioned application in view of the foregoing amendments and the following comments.

Discussion of Claim Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e)

In the Office Action, the Examiner rejected Claims 1-15 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) to Connolly, et al. (hereinafter “Connolly”). Applicant respectfully disagrees with these rejection with respect to the claims, as amended.

Applicant respectfully submits that a claim is anticipated only if each and every element as set forth in the claim is found, either expressly or inherently described in a single prior art reference. *See M.P.E.P. § 2131*. Applicant respectfully submits that Connolly does not expressly teach or suggest at least one limitation from each of the above-listed claims. Independent Claim 1 recites among other limitations: “determining, in a state machine, based upon the memory access control signal, whether to couple a data bus to a second portion of the memory circuit, wherein the state machine comprises a programmable gate array.” Independent Claims 5, 6, 10, 11, and 15 each recite similar types of limitations. In one embodiment, a state machine analyzes each of the received signals to determine whether memory accesses should occur. *See e.g.*, Application, p. 9 lines 8-16. In one embodiment, the state machine is made with a programmable gate array.

In contrast, Connolly describes high density memory module having an ASIC 310/410 for switching between DRAM. Connolly does not use programmable gate arrays to provide a state machine to control bank selection. Since Connolly does not teach or suggest at least these limitations, Applicant respectfully submits that interdependent Claims 1, 5, 6, 10, 11, and 15 are in condition for allowance.

Since Claims 2-4, 7-9, and 12-14 each depend on one of independent Claims 1, 6, and 11, Applicant respectfully submits that these claims are allowable for the reasons discussed above and the subject matter of their own limitations.

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Summary

Applicant has endeavored to address all of the Examiner's concerns as expressed in the outstanding Office Action. Accordingly, amendments to the claims for patentability purposes, the reasons therefore, and arguments in support of the patentability of the pending claim set are presented above. Any claim amendments which are not specifically discussed in the above remarks are not made for patentability purposes, and the claims would satisfy the statutory requirements for patentability without the entry of such amendments. In addition, such amendments do not narrow the scope of the claims. Rather, these amendments have only been made to increase claim readability, to improve grammar, and to reduce the time and effort required of those in the art to clearly understand the scope of the claim language. In light of the above amendments and remarks, reconsideration and withdrawal of the outstanding rejections is specifically requested. If the Examiner has any questions which may be answered by telephone, he is invited to call the undersigned directly.

Respectfully submitted,

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